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The BEE PUBLISHING CO., Props.  
E. ROSEWATER, Editor

It looks as if the dark horse is getting ready for his work on the home stretch.

THERE has been a good deal of fancy sparring in the senatorial contest, but the first blood and knock-down remains to be chronicled.

THE Yale boat crew have gone into training. It is evident that the holiday vacation of our colleges is closed and that studies have been resumed.

It is stated that there will be about fifty contested seats in the next congress. Nothing further need be added than that a democratic majority will decide the contest.

THE shirking corporations, the creations of the state, must be made to bear their share of the burdens of the state. Nebraska and New Jersey are cursed by a steady and outrageous evasion of their taxes by the railroads.

THE Ohio legislature has passed a resolution of thanks to Senator Pendleton for his efforts in securing the passage of the civil service reform bill. Ohio is sufficiently well supplied with fishes to endorse the Pendleton bill with good grace.

COLONEL JOHN A. MARTIN, of Kansas, the new secretary of the national republican committee, is an able and honest man, which is more than can be said of the man whom he displaces. Any decent citizen would have been an improvement on Steve Dotsey.

THE inhabitants of the French capital are practically unanimous in denouncing Prince "Pion Pion" as a theatrical and imbecile fraud. Prince Napoleon prides himself on being an art critic, but he doesn't like "The Judgment of Paris."

MR. GRAY, of Douglas, denounces General Thayer as a pensioner of the Union Pacific. Before the special railroad committee, the other day, Mr. Gray testified that he rode on passes because his brother was freight agent of the Central Pacific. It will now be in order for General Thayer to denounce Mr. Gray as a pensioner of the Central Pacific.

SENATOR GEORGE F. HOAR, of Massachusetts, has secured a re-election to the United States senate after a bitter contest, in which Gov. Long made it particularly interesting for the senator. Mr. Hoar intellectually is one of the ablest of our senators, ranking with Messrs. Edmunds and Davis in the soundness of his views on most of the vital issues of the day. His honesty has never been impugned but his mistaken vote on the river and harbor bill nearly cost him his seat in the senate.

THE Iowa state prohibitory amendment has been declared invalid by the supreme court, the grounds of the decision being a non-compliance with the law regarding the submission of constitutional amendments to the people. This disposes of the prohibition question in Iowa for several years at least. Two successive legislatures will have to declare themselves in favor of its submission before the people will be afforded another opportunity to vote on another constitutional amendment. The last election indicates that such an opportunity will not put in an appearance for some years to come.

A fourth joint ballot taken yesterday at Lincoln was as fruitless of results as the three which preceded it. The nucleus around which the votes of the coming senator are to cluster, is not yet clear. The balloting thus far has been a surprise to the friends of all the leading candidates, and prophesies are not wanting that none of the gentlemen who are selling high in the pools possess poles long enough to reach the coveted personation. One thing is certain and that is, that the anti-monopoly republicans, the anti-monopolists and a majority of the democrats will never assist in securing the election of a railroad candidate. The coming senator will not be Mr. Millard, but who it will be no one is as yet bold enough to prophesy, and the general public probably know as much about it as the wire pullers at the state capital.

## REGULATING THE PRIMARIES

Several bills have been introduced in the legislature which have for their object the prevention of frauds at primary elections. Two years ago THE BEE strongly urged the subject upon the last legislature and a measure of similar tenor to those now proposed was introduced in the senate by General Van Wyck. Owing to the energetic efforts of several interested parties it never became a law. The present legislature owes it to the people of Nebraska to pass some measure which will be adequate to deal with the evils of the primary. In no portion of the United States have frauds at the primaries been committed so boldly as in our own. It is notorious that Omaha has not seen an honest primary in ten years. Both parties have suffered from the corruption which has surrounded the ballot boxes and has suppressed the expression of party sentiment by purchased votes, stuffed boxes and the polling of men who were disqualified under the rules of party management.

The primary election is the fountain head of our political system. It selects the members of our conventions which formulate the party principles and nominate the candidates for popular support. As long as party lines bind tightly together the members of a political organization, the party will generally approve the results of the primary, however obtained. For this very reason it is all the more important that the primaries should be taken from the hands of the political thugs and placed under the control of the people with such legal restrictions as will insure the full and free expression of their wishes. Ohio has a law regulating the primaries which has been in successful operation for several years. Its provisions were fully discussed in THE BEE several months ago. Nebraska needs just such a measure. Anything that will purify our politics ought to be welcomed and will be welcomed by the people.

Who forged the census returns? The question is likely to become as puzzlingly elusive as the historic conundrum, "Who struck Billy Patterson?" The congressional committee are in profound ignorance. Tom Majors is indignantly inquisitive and Pat Hawes does not hesitate to express the opinion that it is more mysterious than the rapidly with which Ben Bristow changed his mind on the pie question. St. Alexander, as ex-secretary of state, feels very much hurt that suspicion has been thrown upon his intelligence. He insists that he knows the difference between the census report of 1874 and that of 1877, and Peter Schwenck and Valentine are so amazed over the discovery that they have been made the victims of wicked duplicity that they are absolutely speechless.

The only supposition which is tenable under the circumstances is that the returns forged themselves and committed a crime which has clouded the youthful enthusiasm of Pat Hawes and cast a shade over the spirits of Schwenck and Valentine.

THE Kansas City Journal makes merry at the expense of our numerous senatorial candidates. It says:

A great many patriotic Americans are offering themselves as sacrifices in various parts of the country. In Michigan fourteen of these patriots have allowed their names to be used in the senatorial contest. For patriots, however, Nebraska lacks the list, with twenty-nine candidates and a dozen dark horses. When the arduous duties of the office of United States senator are considered, every true lover of liberty must feel lifted up with pride at this unusual spirit of sacrifice. It will be a day full of Manitoba waves when the republic can be endangered, with a United States senatorial aspirant on every section of land. Such examples will induce every youth in the nation to go to the senate, if called upon to sacrifice himself. We almost feel like going ourselves.

MR. GRAY, on behalf of Mr. Millard, seemed to be afraid that the General would get Thayer.

## OTHER LANDS THAN OURS.

The political event of the week abroad has been the manifesto of Prince Napoleon, ("Pion Pion"), which was posted throughout France on Tuesday night, and in which the son of Jerome Bonaparte asserts his claim to reign over the French people. The only effect of the document was the prompt arrest of the prince and the introduction of a bill in the chamber of deputies which will practically banish if carried into effect all members of French dynasties from France and Algeria. It is believed in some quarters that Prince Pion-Pion's manifesto was intended simply to bring its author again before the public and that his arrest is a serious mistake on the part of the government for this reason. The issuing of the manifesto was well timed. The friends of republicanism in France are disheartened at the inability and weakness of the government; President Grevy falls to command respect, the cabinet is impotent, and the chamber of deputies disorganized and rent by factions. It is at this juncture that Prince Napoleon declares that the republic is a failure, that it has degraded the army, ruined the finances of the

country, and that religion and good government have alike suffered under it. The character of the man roasts the proclamation of much of its dangers. He began public life as a red republican. He accepted office under his cousin, became a prince of the empire, and was given high military command only to abandon his post when danger threatened. His petronage gained him the contemptuous sobriquet of "Pion Pion," and his personal cowardice was shown by his refusal to accept the challenge of the Duc d'Angoulême, who defended the honor of the Orleansists against Prince Napoleon's attack. Pion-Pion quitted with the radicals under the empire while dependent on the favor of his cousin for his honors and wealth, and to-day he is found ready to stab the republic which has unwisely allowed him the privilege of asylum. France in not yet ready for another Napoleonic empire. The remembrance of the treachery and crimes of the late emperor is still too fresh in the minds of the French people to make them incline kindly to any of his blood. The republic is rent with factionism but France is still thoroughly republican and the appreciation of such dangers as the presence of the plotting "Pion Pion" is the surest road to the sweeping away of the minor differences which now distract her political parties.

Mr. Gladstone is taking a few weeks rest in southern France before the opening of parliament. Meantime Lord Dufferin has enunciated briefly but clearly the outlines of the English plan for the control of Egypt. The joint control is to be abolished, a representative native government established, England's mastery of the Suez canal is frankly affirmed and broad intimations are made that both in Egyptian politics and finances her majesty's ministry propose to hold the trump card. Lord Dufferin on behalf of England formally withdraws from the financial control, and France has given in an unwilling acquiescence. In Ireland new clues are said to have been found of the Phoenix park assassins, and twenty arrests were made on Monday in Dublin, one of whom was a member of the municipal council. Two executions of convicted murderers took place during the week and renewed excitement on the question of home rule is manifested.

It is estimated that nearly three hundred men, women and children lost their lives in the burning of a circus on Sunday in Berdetsch, Russian Poland. The audience consisted almost entirely of Jews, but several of the leading citizens of the town, which has 100,000 inhabitants, perished in the flames.

From Cairo comes news of a bold attempt which was made on Sunday to assassinate the sultan at Constantinople. The plot was divulged by a woman and the assassin was met and routed in the vicinity of the sultan's apartments, several being killed in the melee.

Recent rumors reviving the creation of an English representative residing at the Vatican, are declared to be in the nature of feelers, to sound the sentiment of the British people upon an experiment which few ministers have felt themselves strong enough to take openly. Palmerston did maintain a sort of agent at the Vatican, but he never assumed any official character. The no popery cry has been until very recently strong enough to bring England to the verge of revolution. If Gladstone ventures to openly re-establish the relations that were broken off with such parade after the expulsion of the Stuarts, it will be a declaration of greater independence than Pitt would have ventured upon the armies of England were over-running every country in the world.

Our homestead laws are objects of warm admiration in Germany, where mortgages have ruined many farmers and other country people. Certain measures of relief for these classes are under consideration this winter, and meanwhile the newspapers are full of interesting information about the conditions under which land may be obtained and is held in the United States. Laws somewhat like our homestead acts have been in force in Saxony since 1873, and more significant, however, of the liberality and beneficial regulations, were introduced in the British East India recently.

A society has been formed with the object of procuring a declaration of the neutrality of Denmark, which would place that country in a political state like that occupied by Switzerland or Belgium. A newly established journal advocates the idea brilliantly. There is, however, little prospect that this scheme of states will be brought about; so little indeed that during the late debate on the fortification bill a speaker advocated as the basis of Danish policy a close union with Sweden and Norway. An alliance of this kind, between Scandinavian neighbors, would be very natural, but there are many jealousies between the countries to be overcome, and no such combination of interests is likely to be brought about in this generation. Moreover, if it ever is seriously considered, it is questionable how much of Denmark will be left to join the confederation. Germany will have some words to say on that head, and if the islands alone remained to enter a Scandinavian league, the utmost expectation of many Danes would be fully realized.

The revolt of the Norwegian people against King Oscar, or rather against monarchical government, is proved to be gaining strength by the result of last month's election, which sends ninety opposition members to the national parliament or Storting, and only twenty crown supporters. There has been something of jealousy and discontent among the people over since the partial union with Sweden sixty-eight years ago; but the immediate cause of this last strong movement is the king's determination to veto at all hazards a bill giving the ministers of state seats in the Storting. Under Norwegian law a bill must be passed over the king's veto by three successive storthings before

it becomes a law; and though this has been done with the minister act, Oscar claims that on questions of constitutional amendment he has the final vote power. Bjornstjerne Bjornson, the novelist, leads the popular party. Only a leader was needed to fashion into a force the democratic sentiment which has existed among the peasant voters for many years and expressed itself so long ago as 1815 by abolishing the titles of nobility, and in later years by substituting annual for triennial sessions of storting. It is a sturdy and plucky little nation of 120,000 people which wants to govern itself.

One result of the late war is the opening of a new route to travel to Egypt. Hitherto people bound to Cairo have been forced to make the journey from Alexandria, and if they have taken pains to see the Suez canal they have had to go out of their way for it. Within a few weeks an English Australian line of steamers, calling at Naples fortnightly, has begun to take travelers either from London or Naples to Ismailia, on the canal, from which place a few hours' ride over the railroad which was of so great importance to General Wolsley, conveys them to Cairo. This route takes one over the battle field of Tel-el-Kebir, affords a chance to see the canal, and costs no more than the direct journey through Alexandria.

The first international exhibition ever held in Holland is to be opened at Amsterdam May 1. Preparations for it have been under way for nearly two years, and a fair representation of the products of all countries is assured. The exposition building will cover seventy acres of ground, and space is duly assigned to all nations and colonies. Among the latter the British colonies will naturally shine pre-eminent. British India will fill 10,000 feet of space and Australia nearly as many. The outlook for American exhibits is unfortunately discouraging. There would be a great demand for many American manufactures in the Dutch colonies if they were thoroughly advertised, and this show will be a good advertising medium.

A correspondent writing from Constantinople complains because Russia is playing a sharp trick on Turkey in the matter of the monument, which by the terms of the Berlin treaty, the victor in the late war is authorized to set up in honor of its soldiers who fell at Shipka Pass. Nothing was stipulated as to the form of the memorial, nor was a site for it designated. Inasmuch as the heavy fighting took place at the top of the pass the Turks think the Russians ought to put their column at that point. But instead of this it is proposed to establish it at the mouth of the defile and to give it the form of a monastery. But a monastery at that point could be little else than a fort, and it is pointed out, would give the Russians the complete command of the Balkans, which were supposed to have been left by the treaty of Berlin in possession of the Ottoman empire. The Turk objects strenuously to this infringement of his rights, as he naturally regards it, but no one seems to care very much.

The compulsory school attendance of children in the German empire differs in the several states. In Bavaria the law begins with their sixth year, ending with the completion of their thirteenth year, as regards week day classes, and with their sixteenth year as far as the attendance of Sunday schools is concerned. According to the Prussian law of public instruction of March 24, 1883, every child has to attend the instruction prescribed for public schools from the completed sixth to the completed fourteenth year. In the Grand Duchy of Baden the term is the same as in Prussia, beginning and ending on the 23d day of April of the respective years. In the duchy of Anhalt children are likewise required to go to school on the completion of their sixth year; girls, however, are exempt at fourteen, while boys must continue to the completion of their fifteenth year. In the kingdom of Saxony and the duchy of Saxe the duration of the compulsory school-term is eight years; in Wurtemberg only seven, say from the seventh to the completed fourteenth year.

The German salary list contains some interesting items. Chancellor Bismarck receives an annual stipend of \$18,000 and the free use of his palace, together with an extra allowance of nearly \$7,000 for the maintenance of the furniture, linen and utensils of the palace and the gardens connected therewith. The secretary of state for foreign affairs, Count Hatzfeldt, is paid \$17,000 per annum with certain perquisites. But the ambassadors at London and St. Petersburg take the prize compensations for their services to the government, getting \$50,000 apiece per annum; their colleague in Paris has \$40,000, he at Constantinople the same, and he at the Vatican \$33,000. The governor of Alsace-Lorraine is paid \$30,000 a year, but he is not exactly a public functionary. The ambassador at Vienna gets \$40,000, the one at Pekin \$20,000, and the one at Tokio \$15,000. From these amounts the salaries shade down to moderate stipends to consuls, the consuls general, however, being paid from \$5,000 to \$16,000, the latter amount, the largest on the list, going to the one at New York. Most of the ambassadors are "found," and those at the Vatican and with the porte have in their suite official "preachers," paid by the state.

Now that the czar has signed a decree dissolving all the secret societies in Russia, it is to be hoped that we shall hear no more about those pestiferous nihilists. When they're dissolved they're dissolved, and that ought to put an end to them. It is a pity that the late czar never thought of this simple means of getting rid of them.

While in St. Paul, Minn., on one occasion, Miss Minnie Palmer tripped on the stage, causing her to sprain her ankle. St. Jacobs Oil was promptly and freely applied, and in two days Miss Minnie was as active as ever.

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